

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the Office Action mailed February 15, 2005, submitted concurrently with a one month extension of time to extend the due date for response to June 15, 2005.

By this Amendment, claims 1-3 and 6 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to their underlying subject matter. Further, claims 4 and 5 have been canceled and rewritten as new claims 7 and 8. Further, new claims 9-13 have been added to further protect specific embodiments of the present invention. Thus, claims 7-13 are pending in this application.

In view of this Amendment, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication that original claims 4 and 5 (now rewritten as new claims 7 and 8) are allowable.

Objections to the Specification and Claims

The Examiner has objected to the specification and claims since the polymer coating material of "*dimethyldichlorosilane polymer*" does not exist. The Examiner has interpreted the term "*dimethyldichlorosilane polymer*" in the specification and claims as a polydimethylsiloxane which is a polymerized product of dimethyldichlorosilane. Although Applicant believes that the polymer coating material of "*dimethyldichlorosilane polymer*" is a well understood term to one skilled in the art, Applicant has amended the specification and claims to expedite the allowance of the present application.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for alleged indefiniteness. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

However, to expedite the allowance of the present application, Applicant has canceled claims 1-6 and rewritten the claims to clarify the structural cooperative relationships between the elements of the claimed invention.

Thus, in view of the new claims, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Kimura et al. (U.S. Patent 6,519,440) as support by Aramata et al. (*“Determination of Oxygen in Organosilicon Polymers and Organic Materials by Inert-Gas Fusion with a Platinum Carbon Converter”*). Further, claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Zechman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,358,893). Lastly, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Ueba et al. (EP 775,994) Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

However, to expedite the allowance of the present application, Applicant has canceled claims 1-3 and 6, thereby rendering moot these rejections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Ueba et al. (EP 775,994) Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

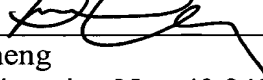
However, to expedite the allowance of the present application, Applicant has canceled claims 2 and 3, thereby rendering moot these rejections.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application have been indicated by the Examiner to be allowable. Accordingly, issuance of a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Dated: June 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 180013 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.